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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/821,267	03/29/2001	Kazutoyo Machiro	6514-8	4470

7055 7590 02/07/2007
GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C.
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RESTON, VA 20191

EXAMINER

DOAN, DUYN MY

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2152

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	02/07/2007	ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Notice of this Office communication was sent electronically on the above-indicated "Notification Date" and has a shortened statutory period for reply of 3 MONTHS from 02/07/2007.

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Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/821,267	Applicant(s) MAEHIRO ET AL.	
	Examiner Duyen M. Doan	Art Unit 2152	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 16 October 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 4, 5, 10 and 13-16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 4, 5, 10 and 13-16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 29 March 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 10/16/06 has been entered. Claims 1,4-5,10,13-16 are amended for examination. Claims 2-3,6-9,11-12,17-18 are cancelled.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

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Claims 1, 4-5, 10, 13-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Applicant Admitted Prior Art (hereinafter AAPA), in view of Schi, (Us 2002/0193986) (hereinafter Schi) and further in view of Hansted (Us 2002/0006826) (hereinafter Han)

As per claim 1, AAPA teaches an information processing apparatus capable of sending a message about a schedule to a second information processing apparatus through a communications network, wherein the second information processing apparatus is capable of analyzing the message being received and extracting words or phrases for entering into the schedule managed by a scheduler (AAPA, pg 1-2):

However, AAPA does not explicitly teach:

a first storage device that stores a group of first data sets in which the words or phrases are matched to respective identifiers, while a second storage device in the second information processing apparatus stores a group of second data sets corresponding to words or phrases having the same meanings as the words or phrases corresponding to the respective identifiers of the first data sets; a word or phrase selector that selects at least one word or phrase from the words or phrases stored in the first storage device; an extractor that extracts a specific identifier corresponding to the selected word or phrase from the first data sets; and a transmitter that transmits the extracted identifier as the message to the second information processing apparatus; wherein the identifier transmitted from the information processing apparatus is converted to a specific word or phrase on the basis of the second data sets stored in the second storage device; wherein the words or phrases stored in the first storage device are represented by a first

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natural language, while the words or phrases stored in the second storage device are represented by a second natural language that is different from the first natural language.

In a similar system, Schi teaches: a first storage device that stores a group of first data sets in which the words or phrases are matched to respective identifiers (Schi, [0010]; [0056], where the search terms are predefined, and each term are associated with a predetermined UID value), while a second storage device in the second information processing apparatus stores a group of second data sets corresponding to words or phrases having the same meanings as the words or phrases corresponding to the respective identifiers of the first data sets (Schi, Fig. 2A, item 114 and 116, wherein the corresponding UID values are linked to each other for purpose of translation of similar terms identified by UID values; [0049], [0051], [0053], wherein the UID values are searched and words with similar meanings are returned in response to a query); a word or phrase selector that selects at least one word or phrase from the words or phrases stored in the first storage device (Schi, [0056], query selected from predefined list); an extractor that extracts a specific identifier corresponding to the selected word or phrase from the first data sets (Schi, [0051], UID values are determined using parse); and a transmitter that transmits the extracted identifier as the message to the second information processing apparatus (Schi, [0051-0053], wherein the UID values are sent to database and stored relevant results are returned), wherein the identifier transmitted from the information processing apparatus is converted to a specific word or phrase on the basis of the

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second data sets stored in the second storage device (Schi, [0049], [0051-0053], wherein the original term is searched and synonymous UID values in other languages are retrieved from the database), wherein the words or phrases stored in the first storage device are represented by a first natural language, while the words or phrases stored in the second storage device are represented by a second natural language that is different from the first natural language (Schi, Fig 2A, where the system supports multiple languages; [0040], databases can be part of a larger distributed system).

It would have been obvious to the person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate Schi teaching with of AAPA because the combination would improve the capabilities of AAPA's system, by allowing for support of multiple languages (Schi, [0044-0045]).

The combination of AAPA and Schi does not explicitly disclose a receiver that receives message from the second information processing apparatus when a user of the second information processing apparatus has affirmatively accepted the transmitted message.

Han teaches a receiver that receives message from the second information processing when a user of the second information processing apparatus has affirmatively accepted the transmitted message (see Han pg.5, par 0118-0120, the desired user (recipient) can accept the invitation, the user (sender) will get the confirmation of his invitation).

It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching of Han to the apparatus of AAPA and Schi

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to send the message back to the sender to notify the sender that the recipient has accepted the invitation, for the purpose of ensuring the status of the invitation this would benefit the sender in the way that the sender know exactly if his invitation was accepted or rejected by the recipient.

As per claim 4, AAPA-Schi-Han wherein the words or phrases of the first and the second storage devices are grouped into different categories and then stored in the first and the second storage devices, respectively (see Schi, [0040]; Fig 2A, where the languages and UIDs are grouped together in separate databases).

As per claim 5, AAPA teaches an information processing apparatus capable of receiving a message about a schedule from a second information processing apparatus through a communications network, analyzing the message being received, and extracting words or phrases for entering into the schedule managed by a scheduler, comprising (AAPA, pg 1-2, where the words or phrases are extracted manually or automatically to be entered into a schedule): an entry system that enters the words or phrases converted by a converter into the schedule (AAPA, pg 2, lines 10-20, where the original message is converted into a modified message and the modified message is being put automatically into the schedule).

AAPA does not explicitly teach:

a first storage device that stores a group of first data sets in which the words or phrases are matched to respective identifiers, while a second storage device in the second information processing apparatus stores a group of second data sets

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corresponding to words or phrases having the same meanings as the words or phrases corresponding to the respective identifiers of the first data sets; a converter that converts the message in the form of the identifiers transmitted from the second information processing apparatus to the words or phrases on the basis of the first data sets stored in the first storage device; and wherein the words or phrases stored in the first storage device are represented by a first natural language, while the words or phrases stored in the second storage device are represented by a second natural language that is different from the first natural language.

However, Schi teaches: a first storage device that stores a group of first data sets in which the words or phrases are matched to respective identifiers (Schi, [0010]; [0056], where the search terms are predefined, and each term are associated with a predetermined UID value), while a second storage device in the second information processing apparatus stores a group of second data sets corresponding to words or phrases having the same meanings as the words or phrases corresponding to the respective identifiers of the first data sets (Schi, [0049], [0051], [0053], wherein the UID values are searched and words with similar meanings are returned in response to a query); a converter that converts the message in the form of the identifiers transmitted from the second information processing apparatus to the words or phrases on the basis of the first data sets stored in the first storage device (Schi, [0049], [0051-0053], wherein the original term is searched and synonymous UID values in other languages are retrieved from the database); and wherein the words or phrases stored in the first storage device are represented by a first natural language, while the words or phrases stored in

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the second storage device are represented by a second natural language that is different from the first natural language (Fig 2A, where the system supports multiple languages; [0040], databases can be part of a larger distributed system).

It would have been obvious to the person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate Schi teaching with of AAPA because the combination would improve the capabilities of AAPA's system, by allowing for support of multiple languages (Schi, [0044-0045]).

The combination of AAPA and Schi does not explicitly disclose a receiver that receives message from the second information processing when a user of the second information processing apparatus has received the transmitted message.

Han teaches a receiver that receives message from the second information processing when a user of the second information processing apparatus has affirmatively accepted the transmitted message (see Han pg.5, par 0118-0120, the desired user (recipient) can accept the invitation, the user (sender) will get the confirmation of his invitation). The same motivation was utilized in claim 1 applied equally well to claim 5.

As per claim 10, claim 10 is rejected for the same reasons as rejection to claim 4 above.

As per claims 13-16, claims 13-16 are rejected for the same reasons as rejection to claim 1 above.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to amended claims 1-20 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.


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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Duyen M. Doan whose telephone number is (571) 272-4226. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:30am-6:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bunjob Jaroenchonwanit can be reached on (571) 272-3913. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Examiner
Duyen Doan
Art unit 2152



BUNJOB JAROENCHONWANIT
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER